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BOROUGH OF KIDDERMINSTER



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR

1955

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.,
(Medical Officer of Health)

G. A. NORTH, M.B.E., M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I., M.Inst.P.C.,
(Chief Sanitary Inspector)



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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1955 - 1956

Chairman	Councillor W. P. Hill
Vice-Chairman	Councillor H. G. Parker
HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR	Alderman Lt. Col. Derick Burcher, O.B.E.		
Alderman A. H. Dudley	Councillor C. E. Jarvis		
Councillor Mrs. M. W. Adams	" W. H. Micklewright		
" Mrs. E. B. Beatty	" E. F. Nock		
" F. E. Brewster	" R. Oakley		
" C. G. Dance	" B. Thompson		

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH

Medical Officer of Health:

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.

Public Analyst:

M. M. LOVE, F.R.I.C.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

G. A. NORTH, M.B.E., M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I., M.Inst.P.C.
(Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector.)

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

J. B. HINTON, Cert.S.I.B., A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
(Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector.)

Sanitary Inspector:

J. WHITTINGSLOW, Cert.S.I.B., A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
(Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector.)

R.A. Rogers, Assistant to Sanitary Inspectors.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 1955 and 1954.

	1955	1954
Area of District in Acres	4694	4694
Population at Census 1951	37423	37423
Estimated Population (mid-year) for Birth Rate and Death Rate	38730	38250
No. of inhabited houses, estimated	11900	11660
No. of persons per house	3.25	3.35
Rateable Value	£225906	£221583
Sum Represented by Penny Rate	£891	£850
Number of Marriages	383	329
Number of live births	608	603
Number of still births	21	12
Birth Rate (Live)(corrected)	15.6	15.7
Birth Rate for England and Wales (Live)	16.1	15.2
Number of illegitimate births	32	32
No. of deaths under one year of age	19	19
Of these there were illegitimate	1	2
INFANTILE MORTALITY PER 1,000 BIRTHS	31.3	31.5
Infantile Mortality for England and Wales	24.9	25.5
Maternal Mortality Rate, England and Wales	0.64	0.58
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births)	Nil	Nil
Number of Deaths	458	472
Death Rate (corrected)	11.3	12.3
Death Rate for England and Wales	11.7	11.3
Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions	86.0	80.7
No. of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	8	5
No. of deaths from Cancer	91	81
No. of deaths from Influenza	Nil	Nil
No. of deaths from Measles	Nil	Nil
No. of deaths from Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil
Rainfall in inches	20.90	27.27

Year	Live Births	Deaths	Births over Deaths increase
1946	749	396	353
1947	800	453	347
1948	730	383	347
1949	702	471	231
1950	597	461	136
1951	645	515	130
1952	661	413	248
1953	562	588	26 decrease
1954	603	472	131
1955	608	458	150

A N N U A L R E P O R T O F T H E
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
F O R T H E Y E A R 1 9 5 5 .

Lloyds Bank Chambers,
Kidderminster.

To the Chairman and Members of the
HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman,

Each year I have the privilege of presenting a brief review on the Public Health of Kidderminster Borough.

This report concerns work and conditions during 1955 essentially within the Borough itself, but some of the outside events which influenced either the conditions or thoughts of all in this district are worth a passing mention.

Social Movements. There was general prosperity in the country with full employment, but warnings of "Inflation" were given by the Government.

Railway and dock strikes caused delay and dislocation of essential works and services.

Medical and Scientific Events. The Measles virus was identified after years of research.

Poliomyelitis Vaccine was brought into use for the first time in the world, by the Americans.

The largest "H" bomb ever made was successfully tested.

A successful voyage of the first atomically powered vessel (a submarine) was completed.

A double flight of the North Atlantic from London to New York and back was achieved in only 15 hours.

Events Abroad. Austria regained her national freedom after 17 years occupation by a foreign power.

Serious rioting broke out in French North Africa.

Terrorism in Cyprus presented an unsolved problem.

"Incidents" between Israel and Egypt threatened the peace of the Middle East.

The Geneva Conference gave hopes of better relations between Nations, but ended in bitter disappointment.

Against this changing background of historical events, life in the Borough has unfolded, bringing numerous opportunities and problems requiring day to day care by the Health Department.

This report contains a detailed statistical account, together with comments on subjects of special interest.

I can record with pleasure the full support and co-operation with the Health Department, given by all other municipal departments and by all sections of the community.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued support and interest, and also to the staff of the Health Department, for their ever loyal and willing help, my thanks are gratefully given.

Your obedient servant,

COLIN STARKIE.

Medical Officer of Health.

PROBLEM FAMILIES.

The suggestion in the 1954 Annual Report that Problem Families should be provided with special accommodation, so that their children would be assured of being brought up in good surroundings, with sufficient light, warmth, material comfort, cleanliness, food and adequate supervision, caused widespread interest and much adverse comment, but until we have the energy to tackle this social evil by very drastic means, it will remain with us and is likely to increase.

In Kidderminster the informal Social Services Committee has met quarterly to discuss all sorts of social problems. The officials of most of the social services, and the organisers of several voluntary bodies, together with nurses, doctors, N.S.P.C.C. Inspector, Probation Officer, Child Welfare Officers and others, have all contributed with their special knowledge and practical help in trying to improve difficult cases.

CANCER OF THE LUNG AND BRONCHITIS.

This was the certified cause of death for 14 men and 2 women in 1955 and is the highest figure recorded under this heading. Since the early nineteen-fifties the evidence has pointed more clearly to cigarette smoking as being a very potent factor in the causation of Cancer of the lung and bronchitis. In the last five years 55 men and 9 women have died from cancer of the lung and bronchitis. Although this may not seem a large proportion of deaths, yet it is steadily increasing and since it would seem to be preventable by people not commencing to smoke, surely the least we can do is to warn our children and young people against what is proving to be an extremely dangerous practise!

DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

Deaths occurring in institutions for the aged or chronic sick are now attributed to the district in which the institutions are built, which means that of the 397 deaths occurring in such institutions in Kidderminster, 191 were not people ordinarily living in the town.

In other words over $\frac{1}{2}$ of the total registered deaths in the borough occurred in people who were only here because the institution or hospital accommodation happened to be here.

NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM EACH DISEASE AND SEX

Cause of Death		Male	Female
1	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	6	2
2	Other forms of Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil
3	Syphilitic Diseases	Nil	Nil
4	Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
5	Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil
6	Meningococcal Infections	Nil	1
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil
8	Measles	Nil	Nil
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	Nil	1
10	Malignant Neoplasm. Stomach	8	3
11	" " Lung, Bronchus	14	2
12	" " Breast	1	10
13	" " Uterus	Nil	7
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	25	21
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	Nil	1
16	Diabetes	Nil	Nil
17	Vascular lesions of Nervous System	31	39
18	Coronary Disease Angina	45	24
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	5	5
20	Other Heart diseases	25	49
21	Other Circulatory Diseases	7	8
22	Influenza	Nil	Nil
23	Pneumonia	7	5
24	Bronchitis	16	14
25	Other diseases of Respiratory System	1	1
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	6	1
27	Gastritis and Diarrhoea	Nil	1
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	5
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	Nil
30	Pregnancy, Child Birth, Abortion	Nil	Nil
31	Congenital Malformations	2	3
32	Other Defined and ill-defined Diseases	16	17
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	5	2
34	All other accidents	6	3
35	Suicide	Nil	3
36	Homicide and Operations of War	Nil	Nil
Total:		230	228

The ages at which deaths have taken place during 1955 are as follows :-

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	19
Between 1 and 2 years	...	...	...	...	Nil
Between 2 and 5 years	...	...	...	...	1
Between 5 and 15 years	...	...	...	...	4
Between 15 and 25 years	...	...	...	...	4
Between 25 and 45 years	...	...	...	...	14
Between 45 and 65 years	...	...	...	...	99
65 years and upwards	...	...	...	...	317

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The agreement made between the borough and the Mid-Worcestershire Hospital Management Committee, whereby for an annual payment the borough can use the Kidderminster General Hospital's Mortuary, continued to work satisfactorily.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH.

The Public Health Officers of the Authority are listed on page 5 of this report for convenient reference.

LABORATORY SERVICE.

The standing arrangements with the County Analyst have remained in force. The Public Health Laboratory, Worcester, is available for examination of medical specimens.

The Medical Practitioners of the Borough have also used the Laboratory at the General Hospital. Specimens for examination have been referred through an Honorary Physician in the Out-Patients Department.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Ambulance Service controlled by the Worcestershire County Council has its Divisional Headquarters in Castle Road, Kidderminster, where six vehicles and crews operate in the Kidderminster area.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The Kidderminster Nursing Association continued to administer the District Nurses as well as District Midwives in the Borough. There are a Matron, three midwives, three pupils, and three District Nurses working in the Borough.

THE HOME HELP SERVICE.

Under the very able administration of a member of the Womens Voluntary Service the Home Help Service has continued its excellent work. The table below shows the amount of real help which this service has rendered in 1955.

Such a service cannot be maintained without considerable cost which is the responsibility of the Worcestershire County Council, and in this area amounts to over £10,000 annually.

The work of the Home Help Service falls into three main categories.

1. Emergency Home Management, e.g. in maternity cases, or where a wife or mother of a family is taken ill, or where someone is taken ill and there is no relative or friend available to help.
2. Continuous Home Care, e.g. where a wife has died or is absent from home on account of illness over a long period.
3. Care of old people, i.e. where age and infirmity prevent old people from caring adequately for themselves.

In all these circumstances some sort of institutional or hospital care would have to be provided were it not for the work of the Home Helps.

It can thus be appreciated that the Home Help Service greatly decreases the strain on the social services financially and in other ways, and by keeping people in their own homes it prevents a great deal of unhappiness which would otherwise occur.

HOSPITALS.

Since 1948, the Hospitals and Maternity Home and other Institutions have been administered by the Regional Hospital Board, with the exception of Greenhill Hostel which is still a voluntary institution for the care of unmarried mothers and under Diocesan administration.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Name	Situation and Time of Session	Provided by
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	(1) St. Oswald's, Monday 2-4 p.m. (2) Sutton Park, Monday 2-4 p.m. (3) Franche Clinic, Tuesday 2-4 p.m. (4) Families Camp, Tuesday 2-4 p.m. (5) Comberton Clinic, 2nd and 4th Tuesday in month 2-4 p.m. (6) Coventry Street, Thursday 2-4 p.m.	County Council
Tuberculosis	Kidderminster General Hospital, Wed. 10 a.m., Thurs. 2-4 p.m., and 6.30 p.m. Tuesday.	Regional Hospital Board
Venereal Diseases	Kidderminster General Hospital, Mon. 2.0 p.m., Thurs. 5.0 p.m.	Regional Hospital Board
Ante-Natal	Monday Session at Coventry Street Clinic, 2-4 p.m. Friday session at Stanmore Nurses' Home 2-4 p.m.	County Council
Consultative Ante-Natal Clinic	Kidderminster General Hospital, Weekly, Wednesday 11.0 a.m.	Regional Hospital Board
Family Planning Clinic	Coventry Street Clinic, Wednesday 2-4 p.m.	Family Planning Association

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	304	272	576
Illegitimate	21	11	32
STILL BIRTHS			
Legitimate	9	12	21
Illegitimate	-	-	-

INFANT MORTALITY RATE 31.3 PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS.
MATERNAL MORTALITY, NIL

INFANT WELFARE FOODS.

The distribution of these foods i.e. National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, Cod Liver Oil and Vitamin Tablets, was carried out by the Ministry of Supply until July 1954 when it was handed over to the local authorities. The Kidderminster Borough have been of the greatest assistance in allowing the use of corporation premises for this distribution, thus enabling the Kidderminster mothers to enjoy the same facilities of supply of baby foods, which they had before the change over.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The six Infant Welfare Centres situated at Coventry Street, Broadwaters, Birchen Coppice, Foley Park, Franche, and the new one on the Comberton Estate, have continued to provide facilities for infant welfare work in all areas of the town. Almost everyone is within three-quarters of a mile of a welfare centre.

The attendances at the various clinics were as follows :

<u>Clinic</u>				<u>Total Attendance</u>
Comberton	...	...	...	171
St. Oswalds	...	...	...	1242
Foley Park	...	...	...	2149
Coventry Street	...	...	...	2215
Franche	...	...	...	1284
Families Camp	...	...	...	1142
Ante-Natal (137 Sessions)	...	...	...	713
Total attendances at Clinics				8916
Sewing Class	...	...	...	592

The work of the Health Visitors is summarised in the table below:

Visits to babies: First	...	...	641
Subsequent	...	...	2658
Visits to children over 1 year	...	...	4519
Special Cases	...	...	344
Useless calls	...	...	992
Diphtheria Immunisations - completed	...	...	529

INFANT DEATHS.

In 1955 there were 19 infants died before reaching the age of one year. This gives an Infant Mortality Rate of 31.3 per 1000 live births, and compares unfavourably with the Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales of 24.9 per 1000 live births. (See graph on page 25)

The deaths of the 19 infants were assigned to the following causes:

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Number Died</u>
Infections	5
Prematurity	4
Congenital Deformity	4
Birth Injury	3
Atelectasis	2
Misadventure	1

12 died under 4 weeks old.

7 died over 4 weeks old.

We must ask the question "Were all these deaths under one year old inevitable?"

Analysis of each group of deaths may suggest the answer.

Infections - Five babies.

Age at Death	Certified cause of Death	Home Conditions	Place of Death
1. 6 months	Broncho pneumonia, Gastro Enteritis.	Not good	Home
2. 9 months	Meningococcal Meningitis, Bilateral broncho pneumonia.	Fairly good	Kidderminster General Hospital
3. 6 weeks	Meningitis.	Not good	General Hospital
4. 17 days	Septicaemia, abscess of neck, Bilateral Hare Lip.	Not good	General Hospital
5. 6 weeks	Acute bilateral pneumonia.	Very poor	Home

It would seem that external, and therefore controllable conditions contributed a great deal to the above deaths.

Prematurity - Four babies.

Time survived	Birth Weight	Certified cause of Death	Where Died
1. 12 hours	4 lb 14 oz	Prematurity, twin pregnancy.	General Hospital
2. 1 day	4 lb 4 oz	Prematurity, Atelectasis.	Maternity Home
3. 1 hour	3 lb 7 oz	Prematurity, Congenital Hydrocephalus.	Maternity Hospital
4. 6 days	2 lb 7 oz	Prematurity.	General Hospital.

The cause of prematurity was unknown and therefore the above babies appeared ill fated from the beginning.

Congenital Deformity - Four babies.

Cause of Death.	
1.	Congenital Hydrocephalus.
2.	Congenital Hydrocephalus - Spina Bifida.
3.	Meningocele, Spina Bifida.
4.	Haemorrhagic Disease of newly born.

Only in the last case was there any possibility of saving the baby's life.

Birth Injury - Three babies.

Cause of Death	Weight at Birth
1. Intra cranial haemorrhage, Supra renal haemorrhage.	10 lb 2 oz
2. Tentorial tear, Cerebral haemorrhage.	5 lb
3. Tentorial tear, Cerebral haemorrhage.	6 lb 6 oz

All these babies were born alive but suffered severe and fatal injury in the act of being born.

The first baby was much overweight and suggests post maturity.

If the mothers had come for more ante natal care and relaxation exercises, would those injuries have been prevented?

Atelectasis - Two babies.

Cause of Death	Birth Weight
1. Atelectasis - Maternal Toxaemia	5 lb 4 oz
2. Foetal asphyxia - Atelectasis	6 lb

Both these babies were born alive but their lungs failed to expand. The reason for this is not known.

Misadventure - One baby.

This baby was left with a feeding bottle in its pram at the age of five weeks. It breathed in some of its feed and died of asphyxia.

The above analysis indicates that not all of the 19 deaths were inevitable, but that if we could only bring all our knowledge and resources to bear, then at least seven of them might have been alive today.

This gives us a hope that in the future we shall save many more babies, as social conditions and health education in all sections of the community improve.

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspection	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	24	10	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	188	28	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority - (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	212	38	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) insufficient	-	2	-	2	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	-	18	-	18	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	20	-	20	-

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Much work has been done by the Health Department to keep manufacturers "smoke conscious," with the resulting cleaner atmosphere for the town. Full details will be found on pages 41, 42 and 43.

All but about half a dozen of the two score commercial plants are excellently controlled, and these few atmospheric polluters are likely to become blameless through the efforts of the works management in installing new machinery and using better firing methods.

The problem of preventing pollution by the twelve thousand domestic fires is still unsolved and will remain so, until householders cease to burn raw coal, and instead use clean smokeless fuels including gas and electricity.

WATER.

The sources of water as detailed in the Report for 1933 are still in use and constitute the main supply, with an additional supply from the Birmingham Elan Aqueduct, the minimum agreed supply to be 8,000,000 gallons per annum.

The water supply to the area has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. Regular bacteriological examination of the raw water is made weekly. Chlorination is permanently carried out, and its efficacy checked by bacteriological examination of tap samples from various points in the town. The results of examination have always shown the water to be fit for use.

As the local well-water supply is hard (average total hardness about 21) and the subsidiary Elan supply is specially treated at its source the question of plumbo-solvency does not arise.

Table of Analysis of samples during 1955.

			Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
(a) the raw water	Bacteriological	101 samples.	101	Nil
	Chemical	101 samples.	101	Nil
(b) water going into supply where treatment is installed	Bacteriological	103 samples.	103	Nil
	Chemical	26 samples.	26	Nil
(c) Supply from wells	Bacteriological	3 samples.	1	2
	Chemical	2 samples.	2	Nil

Analysis shows the amount of fluorine present in the water to be about 0.1%. To reduce dental decay in the borough this amount would have to be increased 10 times.

HOUSING.

Number of houses built by Private Enterprise	...	117
Number of traditional type houses built by		
Local Authority	...	38
Number of new type houses	...	11

The Housing Officer provided the following report:-

Total number of Corporation Houses in the Borough		
at 31st December, 1955	....	2738
Total number of applicants on the housing waiting		
list at 1st January, 1955	...	1233
Total number of applicants on housing waiting		
list at 31st December, 1955	...	1673

The total number of Corporation Houses completed and occupied during 1955 was 49 in the following types :

Traditional -	3 Bedroom	...	...	...	29
	2 Bedroom	...	...	...	9
New Type -	3 Bedroom	...	...	...	9
	2 Bedroom	...	...	...	2

The weekly inclusive rents for Corporation dwellings ranged between about 8/-d for pre-war Aged Persons Dungalows, to about 32/-d for a 5 bedroomed post war house.

The Welfare Officer continues to perform a most valuable service which will be even more important as the slums are cleared.

SLUM CLEARANCE.

A programme has been drafted to clear about 500 unfit houses in the five years ending 1960.

Up to the end of 1955 the legal machinery had been well started for dealing with the first batch of about 80 houses. After a necessarily slow start it is hoped that progress will be much accelerated in the near future, but until new houses have been built, many unfit houses will have to remain in use.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1955.

The only deaths due to the notifiable diseases, other than tuberculosis, were caused by pneumonia.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during
the year 1955.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	28	3	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	2	Nil
Pneumonia	18	6	12
Poliomyelitis	2	2	Nil
Whooping Cough	45	Nil	Nil
Measles	883	Nil	Nil
Paratyphoid	1	1	Nil
Erysipelas	6	1	Nil
Food Poisoning	3	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	1	1	Nil

DIPHTHERIA.

1 case occurred.

529 immunisations were completed.

There are still some parents who are so prejudiced, or ignorant or too apathetic to have their children protected against this dangerous disease.

Table showing Incidence and Mortality of Diphtheria.

Year	Total Cases	Deaths	Mortality Rate	Immunised Children	
				Cases	Deaths
1943	9	-	-	-	-
1944	8	-	-	-	-
1945	13	1	-	-	-
1946	11	1	9.0	-	-
1947	2	-	-	-	-
1948	-	-	-	-	-
1949	2	-	-	-	-
1950	-	-	-	-	-
1951	-	-	-	-	-
1952	-	-	-	-	-
1953	-	-	-	-	-
1954	-	-	-	-	-
1955	1	-	-	-	-
Total:	46	2	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 34 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified in 1955.

The miniature Mass Radiography Unit visited the Borough in September. This helped to discover new cases of tuberculosis, and altogether 34 new cases were notified.

The most important anti-tuberculosis measure taken in 1955 was the introduction of tuberculin testing and the giving of B.C.G. vaccine to all 13 year old children whose parents wished for this to be done. This offer was accepted for over 80% of the borough's 13 year old children.

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Death Rate (all forms) per 1,000 living
	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	
1949	22	14	6	1	.39
1950	34	16	1	2	.47
1951	29	7	1	2	.24
1952	23	7	1	1	.21
1953	24	6	2	1	.18
1954	19	4	5	1	.13
1955	34	8	Nil	Nil	.20

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION.

Sterilisation of blankets was carried out at the Blakebrook County Hospital.

Disinfestation and disinfection was undertaken by the Health Department, on account of the following :-

Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	2
Cancer	...	...	...	...	1
Bugs	...	...	...	...	30
Fleas	...	...	...	...	29
Ants	...	...	...	...	2
Bees	...	...	...	...	1
Cockroaches	...	...	...	...	1
Flies	...	...	...	...	9

HEALTH EDUCATION.

"No Darkness but Ignorance" applies to health subjects as much as to any other sphere, and it has been the duty of the Health Department to dispel the "Darkness of Ignorance" as far as possible.

To this end there has been a very close association between the general public and the health department, particularly during the daily round of the sanitary inspectors and in discussions with

A Family Circle Group
Parent-teachers Association
Nurses
Pupil teachers
Head teachers Association
Social Study Group
Home Helps
Young Wives Guilds.

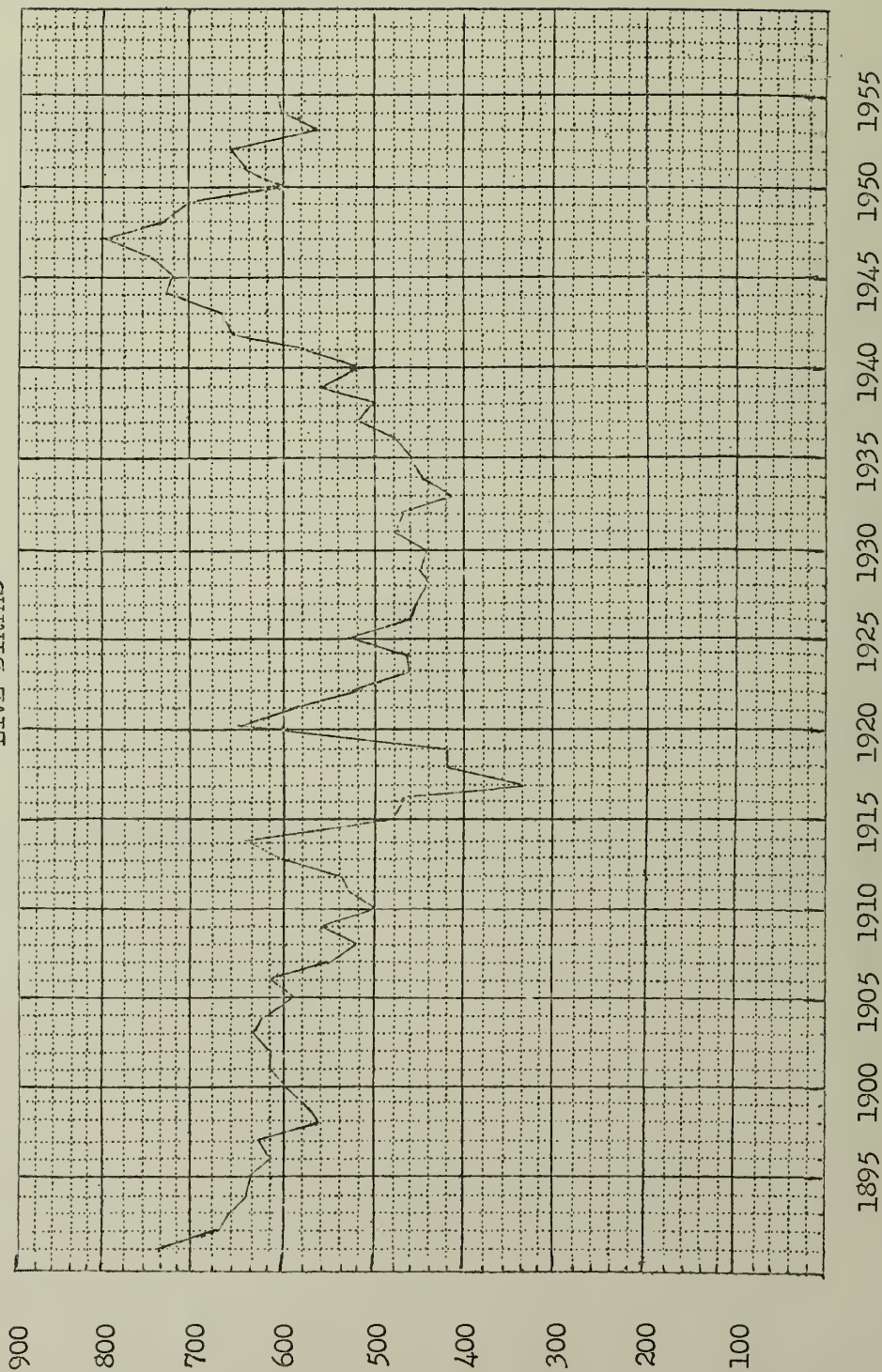
The following subjects have been discussed :-

Clean food
Flies and other vermin
B.C.G. Vaccination
Infectious disease exclusion
Problem families
Footwear
Discipline, etc.

This constant discussion and health education is regarded as one of the most important aspects of the health service.

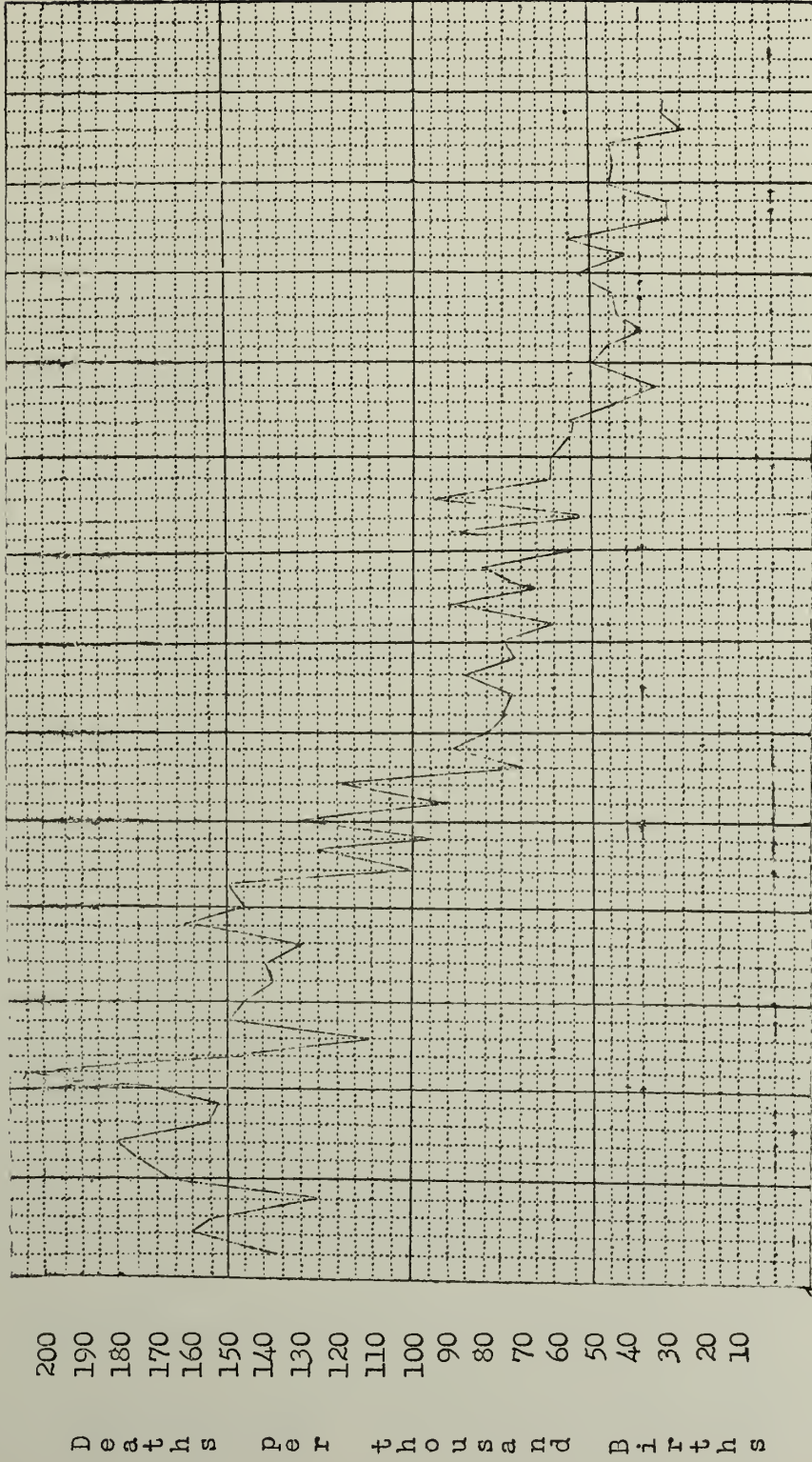
KIDDERMINSTER BOROUGH

LIVE BIRTHS



KIDDERMINSTER BOROUGH

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE
DEATHS PER THOUSAND BIRTHS



1895 1900 1905 1910 1915 1920 1925 1930 1935 1940 1945 1950 1955

Year

REPORT OF THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1955

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting the Annual Report of the work accomplished by my Department for the year ended 31st December, 1955.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

The duties of Meat Inspection have been discharged during the year to the utmost, at the eight slaughterhouses now licensed in the Borough.

Set out below is a synopsis of the work for the year 1955.

Carcases inspected and condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1617	113	284	7370	5616
Number inspected	1616	113	284	6663	5616
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS: Whole carcasses condemned	2	-	2	3	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	278	8	-	147	131
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	17.3	7.1	.7	2.2	2.3
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY: Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	56	9	-	-	105
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	3.4	8.8	-	-	1.8

MEAT AND EDIBLE OFFALS CONDEMNED DURING 1955.

Disease	Tons	Cwts	Lbs
Tuberculosis	1	11	100
Cirrhosis, Distomatosis	1	6	57
Pyogenic Abscesses		8	60
Pericarditis		6	31
Tainted		4	39
Parasitic Cysts		3	12
Johnes disease, Emaciation, Dropsy		2	76
Moribund, Badly Bled		2	0
Injury, Haemorrhage		1	94
Pleurisy, Peritonitis		1	81
Necrosis		1	33
Pneumonia		1	19
Strongylosis			111
Distomatosis, Dropsy, Emaciation			98
Angiomatosis			75
Actinomycosis			57
Immaturity			55
Inflammation			34
Pyæmia			31
Melanosis			14
Fatty Infiltration			10
Arthritis			8
Total weight condemned	4	15	87

SUMMARY OF MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION (1945-1955)

Number of Animals Slaughtered					Amount of Meat Condemned					
Year	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves	Weight of Meat and Offal rejected			Weight Amount Affected with Tuberculosis		
					T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.
1945	3246	8613	489	1037	38	4	0	18	4	1
1946	4510	12231	189	1433	46	7	2	21	9	2
1947	2939	7657	116	1211	43	1	0	19	4	1
1948	2725	7503	125	1462	36	13	3	17	15	1
1949	2817	9534	227	1703	55	8	2	23	19	2
1950	3446	8953	92	1398	61	14	0	27	2	1
1951	4001	9750	607	722	45	18	1	19	8	3
1952	3379	11446	1434	1030	38	3	1	13	10	2
1953	3520	10928	3658	1266	35	17	2	11	16	1
1954	2442	11780	5549	582	18	8	1	7	1	1
1955	1730	7370	5616	284	4	15	3	1	12	0

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED.

2359 Tinned Goods	90 lbs Rabbit
120 lbs Corned Beef	40 lbs Chip Sausages
285 lbs Cooked Ham	100 lbs Salmon
31 lbs Tongue	362 lbs Sweets and Chocolates
55 stone Cod Fillets	33 lbs Margarine
12 lbs Dried Fruit Salad	75 lbs Fruit Cake
18 lbs Jellyed Veal	6 lbs Calves Tongue
2 lbs Pork Luncheon Meat	32 stone Kippers
92 lbs Prawns	2 stone Mackerel
17 lbs Fish Fillets	69 lbs Dripping
100 lbs Roe	157 lbs Pork Sausage
138 5 oz Table Jellies	4 doz Chicklet Cakes
4 lbs Brisket Beef	9 stone Herrings
88 Jars of Foodstuffs	10 lbs Bacon
186 lbs Cheese	120 lbs Raisins
24 doz Fish Cakes	36 lbs Lard
54 Wood Pigeons	23 lbs Beef Sausage
12 Boiling Fowl	1 Dressed Turkey

FLOOD.

During the last week-end in March, due to heavy and incessant rain, the level of the River Stour, which winds through the town centre, rose quickly. This resulted in the flooding of a shopping area consisting mainly of the Bull Ring, Trinity Lane, Vicar Street and Mill Street. In this area are a number of foodshops, varying in description, viz: Grocers, Cafes, Greengrocers and Fruiterers, Butchers, Confectioners, Fishmonger, and licensed premises, most of these being affected by the flood to a more or less degree.

As soon as practicable, all food premises in the afflicted area were inspected by the Health Department Staff to ensure that all affected food was "earmarked" for removal and destruction. All available transport, including Council and Private, was brought into action at the earliest, and removal continued for several days, the loss being incalculable, and the amount of goods removed most considerable both in quantity and weight.

It was, of course, impossible to list the goods, due to their damaged and often very sodden condition, but it is of interest to record that they included a very wide variety, viz: bacon, butter, margarine, lard, cheese, sugar, cereals, sweets and confectionery, vegetables, fruit and greengrocery, packeted foods and tinned goods, fish and poultry. In the circumstances, therefore, these goods are not included in the list above.

I am of the opinion that the aptitude employed by the owners of the premises and their staffs in expediting the removal of the flood damaged goods and the subsequent "cleaning up" of the premises is well worthy of note.

SUMMARY.

	Tons	Cwts	Lbs
Grand Total Weight (Meat and Foods) Condemned	7	8	30
Grand Total Weight (Meat) Condemned	4	15	87
Grand Total Weight (Tuberculosis) Condemned	1	11	100

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN FOOD) REGULATIONS 1925 to 1939.

CLEAN FOOD BYELAWS.

Total number of samples (chemical analysis only) taken during the year 1955... 83

Milk	...	32	Beef Sausages	...	7
Butter	...	2	Ice-Cream	...	7
Channel Island Milk	...	6	Margarine	...	2
Skimmed Milk Powder	...	1	Orange Juice	...	4
Lard	...	2	Sweets	...	1
Full Cream Block	...	1	Crawfish	...	2
Pork Sausages	...	16			

ACTION TAKEN REGARDING SAMPLES NOT GENUINE.

Sample No.	Sample of	Deficiency or condition	Result, Action, Etc.
454	Pasteurised Milk	2.1% extraneous water	Repeat sample genuine.
462	Sterilised Milk	1.4% extraneous water	Repeat sample genuine.
478	Pork Sausage	Deficiency in meat content	See note (a) below.
508	Lard	Incipient rancidity	See note (b) below.
532	Tuberculin Tested Milk	10% deficient of fat	Repeat sample genuine.
533	Pasteurised Milk	3.3% deficient of fat	Repeat sample genuine.

(a) Sample No. 478. Manufacturers written and interviewed.

(b) Sample No. 508. No action required. This sample was submitted from a consignment already voluntarily surrendered and condemned.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

Sample	No. Taken	Methylene Blue Test		Turbidity test		No. did not satisfy Phosphatase test
		No. satisfied test	No. did not satisfy test	No. satisfied test	No. did not satisfy test	
Designated Milk						
T.T.	13	6	7	-	-	-
Pasteurised	24	23	1	-	-	1
T.T. Past.	9	9	-	-	-	-
Sterilised	13	-	-	13	-	-
Non-Designated	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	59	38	8	13	-	1

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS - OTHER FOODS.

Nature of Food	Bacterial Count	Type of Organism
Pork Sausage	560,000 organisms per gm.	Coli and faecal coli present.
Pork Sausage	-	No pathogens isolated
Pork Sausage	-	No pathogens isolated
Pork Sausage	-	No pathogens isolated
Pork Sausage	-	No pathogens isolated
Pork Sausage	-	No pathogens isolated
Pork Sausage	-	No pathogens isolated
Fancy Cakes	-	No pathogens isolated
Cream Cakes	-	No pathogens isolated
Cream Cakes	-	No pathogens isolated
Beef Sausage	-	No pathogens isolated
Beef Sausage	-	No pathogens isolated
Beef Sausage	-	No pathogens isolated
Beef Sausage	-	No pathogens isolated
Skimmed Milk Powder	-	Coliform and Salmonella bacilli absent

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION)(RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION)(PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS,
1949 - 1953.

No. of Licences Issued:

T. T. Milk	(a) Bottling	Nil	(b) Distribution	8
Pasteurising Plants	1	Retail Distributors		23
Sterilising Processing Plant	1	Retail Distributors		77

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

No. of Distributors registered (excluding shops selling sterilised milk only)	...	...	...	...	...	22
No. of Dairy Premises registered		...	...	...	...	10

ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947.

The operation of the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations has resulted in the taking of routine samples of Ice-Cream manufactured and retailed in the Borough. The tables below give the results, which are most satisfactory.

No. of premises where Ice-Cream is manufactured, stored or sold.

Manufacturers (Heat Treatment)	...	...	...	Nil
Manufacturers (Complete cold mix only)		...	...	3
Premises where wrapped ice-cream only is sold			...	149
Premises where wrapped ice-cream and bulk is sold			...	6
(Does not include cafes)				

1. Ice-Cream - Chemical Analysis.

No. submitted	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
7	7	Nil

2. Ice-Cream - Bacteriological Examination.

No. submitted	Grades			
	1	2	3	4
10	10	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentages	100%	Nil	Nil	Nil

FOOD INSPECTION AND FOOD PREMISES (OTHER THAN MEAT INSPECTION.)

From the list of inspections given on page 36, it can be seen that some 276 visits have been paid to Food Shops and Food preparing places for the examination of foodstuffs, the inspection of the premises and general observation of methods employed. Much still remains to be done in the field of Food Hygiene. The education of food operatives and the installation of modern equipment will greatly help in this connection. In spite of warnings, it is to be regretted that instances still arise of the discovery of contraries in manufactured foods.

Regular inspections should be made of all food premises at least once each month, such premises include Industrial Works Canteens, Hotels and Licensed Houses who provide catering and meals, Butchers, Grocers, Cafes, Confectioners, and all premises where food is prepared or sold.

With the coming into operation of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, increased responsibilities and statutory functions are placed upon the staff.

The sampling of certain types of foods for bacteriological examination is still used to assess their cleanliness of preparation etc. A table showing the samples taken can be found on page 31.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

We have now only two of these houses left in the Borough which are regularly inspected and disinfested if necessary.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The following list of establishments gives those trades which are scheduled in this area as offensive trades.

Gut Scraper	...	...	...	...	1
Tripe Boiler	...	...	...	...	1

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES, CLOTHING, ETC.

The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority mainly combating the more common house pests, viz: bed bugs, fleas, cockroaches, etc.

It is usual to spray infested premises, furniture and other fittings with an insecticide containing D.D.T. Where possible such fittings as picture rails, skirting boards, architraves and wallpapers are removed, so as to facilitate the work. Number of houses disinfested by Local Authority ... 72.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:-

(1) (a)	Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	230
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	811
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in such a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	9
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under sub-head above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	141

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT THE SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	89
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:-(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... | ... | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:- | | |
| (a) by owners ... | ... | Nil |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | | Nil |

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... | ... | 52 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:- | | |
| (a) by owners ... | ... | 47 |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | | 5 |

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | | |
|---|-----|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... | ... | 5 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... | ... | 1 |

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... | ... | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... | ... | Nil |

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED.

Preliminary notices served	...	...	...	...	131
Intimation letters sent	...	...	...	...	81
Statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	55
Reminder notices served	...	...	...	...	3

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS AND OTHER VISITS.
(Excluding Housing)

Private slaughterhouses	...	...	...	1065
Unsound Food, Shops, Warehouses, Stores, etc.	...	...	...	94
Food preparing places, Cafes, Bakehouses, etc.	...	...	...	60
Ice-Cream retailing premises	...	...	...	19
Food Shops (after flood)	...	...	...	32
Mobile Food Units	...	...	...	3
Dairies	...	...	...	6
Markets	...	...	...	62
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	4
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	2
Rodent Control	...	...	...	16
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	4
Cellars (after flood)	...	...	...	6
Pools, water courses	...	...	...	5
Keeping of animals	...	...	...	2
Piggeries, etc.	...	...	...	6
Movable dwellings	...	...	...	2
Dustbins	...	...	...	10
Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	63
Rag and Bone Dealer (on street)	...	...	...	1
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	10
Refuse Disposal (Tips)	...	...	...	150
Theatres, Cinemas, etc.	...	...	...	9
Factories (sanitary accommodation, etc.)	...	...	...	38
Welfare visits	...	...	...	6
Pet Animals	...	...	...	4
Complaints various (excluding houses)	...	...	...	45
New sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	1
Water (not mains supply)	...	...	...	4

SUMMARY PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Three summonses were issued during the year, as under:

Situation of Premises	Nature of Complaint	Sections Contravened	Result
182-183, Sutton Road.	Defective Roofs	92	Order made. Fine of £3.
4,5 & 6, Step Entry.	Dilapidated and dangerous water closet. Defective house chimneys	44 & 92	Withdrawn. Work done.
8, Lenchville, Sion Hill.	Various sanitary defects	92	Hearing adjourned as repairs commenced. Subsequently summons withdrawn.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.
(Salvage and Refuse Collection and Disposal.)

⌘	The cost of collection and disposal of refuse and Salvage for the year 1955 was	...	£24,921
⌘	The income was	... ..	£5,205
	The net cost being	... ..	£19,716
⌘	Financial year ended 31st March, 1956. These figures do not include administration costs.		

COLLECTION OF DOMESTIC AND TRADE REFUSE.

Total number of loads of refuse removed (all vehicles)	7958
Total number of loads of salvage removed	2271
Closet pans emptied	2081
Loads of Night Soil removed	55

DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

Tipped at Broadwaters	...	...	...	Nil
Tipped at Puxton	...	...	...	Nil
Tipped at Hoobrook	...	...	...	Nil
Tipped at Worcester Road	...	...	...	5687
Total	...	...	...	<u>5687</u>

RECORD OF SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR, 1955.

Month				Weight of Salvage			Income from Sale		
				Tons	Cwts	Qrs	£	s.	d.
January	...	...	...	70	12	0	529	10	1
February	...	...	...	65	0	0	474	4	10
March	...	...	...	90	6	3	636	12	1
April	...	...	...	53	14	2	415	11	11
May	...	...	...	54	4	2	387	16	5
June	...	...	...	60	12	2	453	16	0
July	...	...	...	43	18	2	331	14	9
August	...	...	...	46	7	0	357	1	7
September	...	...	...	57	12	0	430	19	0
October	...	...	...	58	6	3	413	3	9
November	...	...	...	62	2	0	440	19	10
December	...	...	...	64	8	3	467	15	0
TOTAL				727	5	1	£5339	5	3

The weights of the salvaged materials have been segregated and are set out below.

Materials				Tons	Cwts	Qrs	£	s.	d.
Baled Waste Paper	...	...	...	542	3	1	4259	10	4
Heavy Cast Iron	...	...	...	5	6	2	38	12	2
Baled Destructor Scrap	...	...	...	66	17	2	347	4	5
Cullet (Broken Glass)	...	...	...	23	4	1	55	14	2
Textiles	...	...	...	4	9	2	46	15	9
Bottles and Jars	...	...	...	1	5	0	11	1	6
Light Scrap Iron	...	...	...	11	4	1	34	14	5
Kitchen Waste	...	...	...	72	15	0	545	12	6
TOTAL				727	5	1	£5339	5	3

Total tonnage - 1940 to 1955 :- 20,634 tons 6 cwt 2 qrs

Total value - £112,182 2s 6d

Chief items of recovery:

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	8111	5	2	59110	5	3
Kitchen Waste	5216	6	2	27242	17	1
Baled Tins	3073	18	1	6224	1	3

SALVAGE - 1940 to 1955.

Year	Tonnage (all materials)			Value			Waste Paper			Dated Tins			Kitchen Waste										
	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.					
1940	959	11	0	2943	11	0	369	13	2	1460	10	5	242	18	1	349	9	0					
1941	1550	17	3	4735	9	9	484	2	2	2159	2	10	384	0	1	640	7	7					
1942	2023	18	2	8551	5	11	751	18	1	4827	5	6	484	11	3	898	6	4					
1943	1689	6	1	6803	6	4	479	19	2	3276	5	6	435	9	0	685	15	3					
1944	1589	4	2	6535	14	2	568	4	0	3910	5	11	339	5	1	579	2	4					
1945	1528	13	2	5892	12	9	418	10	1	2918	12	5	260	8	0	449	12	4					
1946	1456	6	1	7787	13	0	416	0	0	2780	1	9	176	8	1	307	8	9					
1947	1274	3	1	7192	17	10	372	9	3	2423	13	4	122	9	3	230	5	10					
1948	1273	17	1	7143	1	9	467	6	1	3054	16	11	123	14	0	236	10	7					
1949	1191	17	2	7099	7	2	492	6	2	3070	8	9	102	18	0	207	7	5					
1950	1069	13	3	6367	9	7	530	7	3	3144	7	8	58	2	1	126	14	0					
1951	1145	17	1	12457	1	11	544	3	2	8281	5	1	57	8	1	199	15	10					
1952	1181	14	0	10021	9	11	548	12	3	5851	0	3	108	2	0	475	4	1					
1953	1041	12	3	7024	6	11	601	12	0	4043	10	7	62	6	2	274	4	6					
1954	930	7	3	6277	9	3	523	15	3	3649	8	0	48	19	1	216	13	0					
1955	727	5	1	5339	5	3	542	3	1	4259	10	4	66	17	2	347	4	5					
20634	6	2	112182	2	6	8111	5	2	59110	5	3	3073	18	1	6224	1	3	5216	6	2	27242	17	1

RODENT CONTROL.Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Numerous complaints of minor infestations were notified and received attention during the year, and routine surveys of business premises and residential areas were also carried out.

In addition, the main sewer manholes and water courses passing through the borough were surveyed and treated twice during the year in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

TREATMENTS.

Corporation Properties	...	...	...	20
Corporation Sewer Manholes	...	...	...	102
Private Houses	...	...	...	286
Individual business premises	...	...	...	708
Blockcontrol schemes carried out	...	...	...	36

RAINFALL.

Month	Inches		Rainfall	
	1954	1955	for past ten years Year	Inches
January	1.22	1.61	1946	31.80
February	1.93	.57	1947	23.41
March	2.20	2.43	1948	27.62
April	.48	.94	1949	19.46
May	3.20	2.18	1950	22.66
June	2.37	2.70	1951	32.57
July	2.65	.55	1952	22.58
August	2.53	.80	1953	22.29
September	1.59	2.05	1954	27.27
October	2.78	1.78	1955	20.90
November	4.89	2.64		
December	1.43	2.65		
Total	27.27	20.90	Average	25.05

MORTUARY.

During the year 56 bodies were received into the Mortuary at the Kidderminster General Hospital.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Classification of Industrial Boiler Installations other than Central Heating Units in the Borough.

Type of Grate						Number
Hand fired	...	...	...	...	...	20
Chain	...	...	...	...	...	6
Coking Stokers	...	...	...	...	...	4
Flipper and Shovel Type	...	...	...	...	...	3
Oil fired	...	...	...	...	...	3
Underfeed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Total						39

Number of installations fitted with effective smoke reducing or ancillary equipment 19
 Number of visits made to boiler installations ... 34
 Number of hours of observation made 25

1954 Month	Solid Matter (Tons per sq. mile)		S.O ₄ (Tons per sq. mile)		S.O ₃ (Mg/100 sq. cm/day)	
	Central Theatre	Oldington	Central Theatre	Oldington	Central Theatre	Oldington
January	12.31	-	2.92	-	2.87	2.15
February	18.48	-	2.01	-	2.72	2.33
March	12.40	-	2.25	-	2.50	1.19
April	10.04	-	1.54	-	0.70	0.59
May	11.84	-	2.15	-	1.73	1.17
June	8.76	-	3.36	-	1.38	0.84
July	9.53	26.25	2.78	3.18	0.53	0.59
August	6.85	8.52	1.54	0.86	0.72	0.72
September	17.48	12.71	2.07	1.10	0.57	0.84
October	16.52	12.57	2.35	1.92	1.28	0.67
November	-	10.85	-	3.39	3.73	2.36
December	12.75	-	2.21	-	2.58	0.86

1955 Month	Solid Matter (Tons per sq. mile)		S.O ₄ (Tons per sq. mile)		S.O ₃ (Mg/100 sq. cm/day)	
	Central Theatre	Oldington	Central Theatre	Oldington	Central Theatre	Oldington
January	-	-	-	-	2.63	1.43
February	7.81	-	2.42	-	3.08	2.03
March	20.02	-	3.32	-	2.91	2.36
April	14.43	-	2.75	-	2.12	1.36
May	14.33	-	4.46	-	1.91	1.27
June	8.89	10.70	2.35	1.93	1.07	0.29
July	12.65	7.86	1.58	1.20	1.55	1.16
August	10.53	11.94	0.44	0.50	1.59	1.12
September	-	5.51	-	1.03	1.25	0.70
October	9.30	3.82	2.08	1.27	2.32	1.41
November	7.22	2.80	1.88	0.23	2.49	1.75
December	10.21	4.70	1.68	1.00	2.29	1.34
Experimental Station - 238, Chester Road North.						
Solid Matter - Tons per sq. mile.						
September 12.57		October 11.17		November 17.00		December 17.05

ACTION TAKEN TO ABATE SMOKE.

Due to the general policy of liaison with the manufacturers and this department, satisfactory co-operation has been maintained. The majority of the boiler installations have been visited at least three times during the year, but some have demanded more attention and necessitated even more frequent visits. Throughout all the manufacturers there is an even stronger feeling that because of the continued increases in fuel costs a very much higher efficiency in fuel consumption must follow. This in itself is providing an automatic answer to the few remaining problems in smoke reduction.

One installation, which was proving a problem has now resolved itself by switching from coal to oil firing. Another firm has begun the installation of a second new chain grate, thus completely eliminating what was considered to be our worst problem.

In the field of pollution assessment, a more effective and cheaper method of deposit measurement has been put on trial this year, and so far the few results obtained encourage further trial. The use of a cheap glass jar and an ordinary 10 cm diameter laboratory glass funnel, individually calibrated, provides a cheap and easily managed deposit gauge. It is anticipated that in the future a number of these deposit gauges will be situated on carefully selected sites covering the whole of the borough area and providing a pattern of deposit density otherwise prohibited owing to cost of standard equipment.

CONCLUSION.

My thanks are due to the whole of the Staff for their loyal and continuous co-operation in dealing with the ever increasing duties and who make every effort to administer the multifarious responsibilities devolving on the department.

I am Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

GEO. A. NORTH.
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

TO THE CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN AND
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

